Social Audit of PDS

5048. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the States where social audits under the revamping of PDS are being conducted; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) Based on the belief that truly democratic institution do better safeguard food security concerns of all than the State bureaucracy, the Government of India has advised the State Governments to substantially involve Gram Panchayats in supervision and monitoring of PDS especially at FPS level as a measure of social audit.

As per reports received, 25 State Governments and UTs have implemented or are actively considering the implementation of the guidelines for involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the Public Distribution System (PDS). Extent of involvement of PRIs in the functioning of PDS is these States in indicated at the Statement.

Statement

Responses Received from the States/UTs Regarding Involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in PDS As a Measure of Social Audit.

State/UT	Response
Andhra Pradesh	The State Government has been involving Panchayats in PDS. Sarpanch of the Gram Panchayat is the president of the FPS. Food Advisory Committees have been constituted at all levels from FPS to District and State level with the instructions of entrust Panchayati Raj and Municipal Institutions into the functioning of vigilance bodies.
Arunachal Pradesh	The State does not have Panchayati Raj System at the moment but vigilance Committee have been formed and steps are being taken to further strengthen their functioning.

State/UT	Response
Assam	At present there is no elected body of gram panchayats in the State and PRIs will be involved in functioning of TPDS after panchayat election.
Bihar	PRIs are not in place in Bihar on account of postponement of Panchayat elections.
Gujarat	Village vigilance Committees have been constituted to inspect fair price shops in villages. The Committee has to submit the report to Gram Sabha. The FPS owner of respective village has to attend the Gram Sabha compulsorily.
Haryana	PRIs have been given the power for recommendation, inspection and supervision of fair price shops. The State Government is actively considering the system of social audit.
Himachal Pradesh	Vigilance Committees have been constituted under the chairmanship of elected President of the Gram Panchyat at almost each FPS.
Karnataka	Every village committee has a member of village panchayat apart from the representatives from APL cardholders, SC/ST, women etc.
Kerala	State Govt. has involved PRIs in monitoring of PDS. The Gram Panchayat, Block Panchayat and Municipal chairperson receive the complaints regarding PDS and supervise the functioning of the authorised retail depots on a regular basis.
Madhya Pradesh	Gram Panchayats and urban/local bodies have been given the powers to inspect the FPSs. Provision has been made for social audit of PDS through Gram Sabhas.
Maharashtra	PRIs are involved in the functioning of TPDS. Measures suggested by Govt. of India are being implemented like display of stock position, right of consumers with regard to certain information, social auditing by FPS committee of Gram Panchayats involvement of Gram Sabhas in running of FPS.

State/UT	Response
Meghalaya	Fair Price shop level committee have been formed in the State consisting of headman and representative of local village durbars. These committees have been given the function of checking and supervision of the working of fair price shops and also submit report to the Dy. Commissioner or subdivisional officers.
Mizoram	Efforts have been made to involve the village durbar in the PDS e.g. recommendations regarding appointment of FPS dealers, formation of Vigilance Committees.
Nagaland	Village councils work as fair price shops and lift their quota directly from FCI. Local village functionaries are directly involved in the implementation of TPDS.
Orissa	State Govt. is actively involving PRIs in the State viz., Vigilance Committee at block and district level have been framed and the Committees are functioning effectively.
Punjab	The proposal for social audit of PDS through PRIs is under consideration.
Rajasthan	The State Govt. has involved PRIs actively in the working of the PDS.
Tamil Nadu	The entire system of the PDS is run by the democratic structure (cooperatives) which is a social audit of the system. Representatives of local bodies including Panchayats are members in the Advisory Committees on PDS at District and Revenue Divisional levels.
Tripura	Vigilance Committee at the level of Fair price Shop has been constituted for each FPS and the elected Pradhan/ Upapradhan of the Gaon panchayat has been made Chairman of the said Committee. In order to identify the BPL families the Village Panchayat and Nagar panchayat have been entrusted this task in rural and urban areas respectively.
Uttar Pradesh	Gram Sabha have been entrusted with the task of monitoring the functioning of FPS. Village committees

State/UT	Response
	have also been appointed comprising member of Gram Panchayats and are required to conduct inspections in order to checks the working of FPS.
West Bengal	Total involvement of PRIs in the functioning of TPDS to make the system more transparent and accountable is being undertaken.
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Local elected bodies have been delegated sufficient powers for smooth functioning of TPDS viz. supervision of movement of foodgrains issued from godowns to the FPS, grant of licence to run FPS, supervising the actual functioning of FPS with regard to the quality standards and actual issue of foodgrains to the cardholders.
Chandigarh	Panchayats are involved in functioning of the PDS, viz., monitoring the working of FPS, recommendation for issue of ration cards, allotment of FPS.
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	The UT Admn. has constituted vigilance committee by involving panchayat members of respective area for checking of fair price shops running in their respective area. For opening of new fair price shop, the opinion of gram Panchayat/Gram Sabha is taken consideration.
Lakshadweep	Fair price shops are run by cooperative societies and managed by elected board members. Panchayat Committees act as Advisory cum Vigilance Committees on PDS. Public can make complaints to advisory-cum vigilance committee.
Pondicherry	As no elected PRIs are functioning in the UT, the social audit system through PRI has not been implemented.

Import of Sugar

5049. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar was imported from Pakistan during the last two years despite adequate stock of indigenous sugar in the country;